

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-14

DRC-01 /198 W

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R 161430Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4014

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0546

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, SF

SUBJ: TWO ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS OF US POLICY TOWARD
SOUTH AFRICA

1. TWO CONTRASTING VIEWS OF US POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA
HAVE APPEARED IN NTJ#DURING PAST FEW DAYS. IN ARTICLE
IN JOHANNESBURG STAR SEPT 1.; STAR'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT
KEN OWEN WRITES THAT "OFFICIALS IN THE AFRICA BUREAU OF THE
STATE DEPARTMENT" HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CHANGING POLICY TO BE

"MUCH UNFRIENDLIER" THAN IT HAD BEEN UNDER NIXON ADMINIS-
TRATION. ACCORDING TO OWEN, A NEW PUBLICATION ISSUED BY
STATE'S BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OUTLINES A CHANGE FROM A
"NEUTRAL POLICY TOWARD AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA"
TO A NEW, "STRONGLY NEGATIVE" FORMULATION. LATTER, OWEN SAYS,
HOLDS THAT USG DOES NOT RPT NOT ENCOURAGE (AS OPPOSED TO NEITHER
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ENCOURAGING NOR DISCOURAGING) PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN SOUTH

AFRICA, CONTRARY TO ACTIVE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE.
IT ADDS THAT USG INFORMS PROSPECTIVE AMERICAN INVESTORS
OF PROBLEMS ARISING FROM SAG'S RACIAL POLICIES AND URGES
US FIRMS IN SA TO FOLLOW ENLIGHTENED EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.

2. CONTINUING TO CITE SAME PUBLICATION, OWEN ALLEGES
THAT THERE HAS ALSO BEEN CHANGE REGARDING "TONE OF THE
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP." OWEN SAID THAT WHEREAS NIXON
ADMINISTRATION SPOKE OF "LOWERING OUR VOICES" AND AVOIDING
POINTLESS SQUABBLES, STATE DEPARTMENT NOW DEFINES COMMUNI-
CATION AS MAINTAINING "FORMAL, IF NOT CORDIAL, RELATIONS"
AND MAKING CLEAR USG'S ABHORRENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
RACIAL POLICIES WITH A VIEW TO INDUCING SAG "TO BE MORE
RECEPTIVE TO CHANGE."

3. QUOTING ARTICLE THAT IT SAID APPEARED THIS WEEKEND IN
THE GUARDIAN, CAPE AFGRIKANS NEWSPAPER PRESENTED
ENTIRELY DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT. DIE BURGER REPORTS THAT
GUARDIAN ARTICLE WAS BASED ON TAD SZULC'S STORY WHICH
APPEARED IN OCTOBER EDITION OF ESQUIRE. GIST OF THIS IS
THAT CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS CAUSED
USG TO DECIDE TO SELL HELICOPTERS AND RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT
TO SOUTH AFRICA.

4. FULL TEXT OF STAR AND DIE BUGGER ARTICLES WILL BE FURNISHED
TO AF/U.
HURD

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

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